

## FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map Update

***FEMA recommends the following format for property owners that want to file an appeal petition.***

### APPEAL PETITION

During the 90-day Public Comment Period, a formal Appeal can be made by a community official or any other interested party who objects to any new or revised information shown on a Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) panel or in the Flood Insurance Study Report that shows Base Flood elevations (BFEs) to be scientifically or technically incorrect (see the Protest Petition form for submitting objections other than BFEs). The distinction between “scientifically incorrect” and “technically incorrect” is important because of the differences in the types and amounts of data needed to support an Appeal Petition. The basis of formal appeals is listed below along with the data needed to support it.

#### Scientifically Incorrect Base Flood Elevations

Basis of Formal Appeal	Required Data to Support Appeal	Submitted by
Incorrect or inappropriate methodology used in the new study	Justification for use of an alternative hydrologic or hydraulic methodology.	Certified professional engineer
Methodology not correctly applied in the new study; i.e., inappropriate or incorrect assumptions in methodology	A revised study that includes all recalculated BFEs, updated hydrologic and/or hydraulic analysis, flood profiles and floodplain and floodway boundaries, using the alternative methods or data that are believed to be superior to those used in the preliminary study.	

#### Technically Incorrect Base Flood Elevations

Basis of Formal Appeal	Required Data to Support Appeal	Submitted by
Insufficient or poor quality data in a new study	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Data believed to be superior to those used in original hydrologic or hydraulic analysis, documentation for source of the new data</li><li>2. A revised study, including updated hydrologic and/or hydraulic analysis, flood profiles, and floodplain and floodway boundaries, using the alternative methods or data that are believed to be superior to those used in the preliminary study</li></ol>	Certified professional engineer
Mathematical error in a new study	Information that identifies the error and provides the correct calculation	
Measurement error in a new study	Information that identifies the error and provides the correct measurement	

Physical change in the floodplain since the new study	1. Information that identifies the change and sufficient topographical and/or structural data for an updated hydraulic analysis  2. Certified topographic maps or other certified ground elevation data of greater detail or more recent than those used for the preliminary FIRM panel in question.	Certified land surveyor  GIS specialist
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**Please use the following tables when submitting an Appeal Petition**

Name		Date	
Company		Phone number	
Address		Phone number (alternate)	
City		E-mail	

Panel Number	Basis of Formal Objection	Description of Challenged Data	Data Supporting Objection

An Appeal Petition and all supporting documents can only be submitted during the 90-day Public Comment Period and therefore must be received by the county no later than April 6, 2007. Please mail this fully completed Appeal Petition and supporting documentation to:

Mark Damon, team leader  
Clark County Community Development  
Engineering Services Division  
PO Box 9810  
Vancouver, WA 98666-9810